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LETTER DATED 8 SEPTEMBER 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ANGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In our capacity as President of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP), I have the honour to request that the attached declaration on the situation in East Timor, made by the member States of CPLP in Lisbon on 6 September 1999, be issued as a document of the Security Council (see annex).

(Signed) Josefa COELHO DA CRUZ
Minister Counsellor
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Declaration on the situation in East Timor made by the Member States of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP) in Lisbon on 6 September 1999

The Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP) expresses its deep appreciation for the exemplary and democratic manner in which the people of East Timor exercised their right to choose their own future through the popular consultation that took place on 30 August 1999, the results of which have unequivocally expressed the option of this brotherly people for national independence.

CPLP manifests its most vivid repulsion and indignation at the wave of violence and terror that has been intensifying in East Timor, provoked by the forces that insist in stopping the course of history.

CPLP underlines the necessity for Indonesia to fully assume its responsibilities emanating from the agreements signed in New York, to do everything in its powers for the re-establishment of security, tranquillity and public order in East Timor.

CPLP vehemently calls upon the international community, in particular the United Nations Security Council, to do everything for the rapid re-establishment of security and normality, including the deployment of peacekeeping forces to the territory.

CPLP considers it fundamental that the announced release of Xanana Gusmao proceed without further delay, in conditions of security, in total respect for his physical and moral integrity and in such a way that he will be able to actively participate in the reconciliation process of the East Timorese people.

CPLP would like to enhance the role of the United Nations Mission in East Timor (UNAMET) and considers it indispensable that, besides the above measures, the adequate and pertinent necessary conditions be created to ensure a peaceful, orderly and democratic transition to independence, in the conviction that independence will bring together all Timorese without exclusion, in a fatherland of fraternity and respect for the sovereign will of the people.